

NOTICE!

The second marking
periods ends on
January 20.
Mid-term exams begin
on January 21.

HIGH POINT

Vol. 18, No. 2

BISHOP FORD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Christmas, 1993

Officer McDonald Addresses Ford's Thanksgiving Assembly



On November 23, during our annual Thanksgiving assembly, Officer Stephen McDonald, who was seriously wounded in the line of duty just a few years ago, spoke regarding what we all have to be thankful for. One of his elementary-school teachers, our own Sister Peggy Linahan, S.N.D. de N., joined him on stage for a photograph.

Alumnus Letter To The Editor

Hello!

My name is John Comis. I graduated from BFCCHS in 1986. Since then I have graduated from St. John's University with a degree in toxicology and a minor in chemistry. Currently I am a second-year medical student at the University of New England in Biddeford, Maine. The reason for this letter is to acquaint you and the student body of BF with Osteopathic Medicine.

Most people consider physicians to be medical doctors only. However, in the United States there are two doctoral degrees that allow the holder to practice medicine. These are the M.D. or medical doctor, with which every one is familiar, and the D.O. or doctor of Osteopathic medicine, with which most people are not familiar.

Both degrees, as I have said, allow the physician to acquire a license to practice medicine. Also, both the MD and DO physician are eligible to train in hospital residency programs (after 4 years of medical school) to specialize in things like pediatrics, family practice, emergency medicine, general surgery, or any of the 23 medical specialties and sub-specialties.

I have written this letter to inform anyone interested in medicine of their choices in medical education. Though BF may seem far removed from medical school, the choices and actions you are involved in today will greatly effect those available to you later.

Good Luck!

Sincerely,
John Comis, MSII

CLIFTON'S CAPERS



Christmas Is A Time To Give Willingly

by Jahmel Weary

'Tis the season to be jolly! Christmas is well on its way. It's time to get your Christmas presents together and wrapped to give away. As you probably have noticed, department stores started putting out decorations already. It's very peculiar, isn't it? Before Thanksgiving the stores are already decorated.

However, Christmas is not about receiving presents or how expensive the presents may be, but it is the story of Jesus' birth! Christmas is a time to reflect on our Saviour, to share with our family and friends, and to give willingly from the heart.

Enjoy your Christmas vacation, and take heed to the proper message that is being given.

Ford Environmental Society Helps Little Things Grow

by Brandon Broady

Ford's Environmental Society (FES) is in its second year. This club activity is moderated by Dr. Defina, who has set specific goals for the surprise success of this society, which are basically several field trips and seminars.

Many Ford students seem to be taking back the interest of the 60's and 70's affair with learning and protecting the environment through FES and the experimental program in some environmental courses called "Skills For Action."

Ford's Environmental Society's recent field trips were to Jamaica Wildlife Refuge and Highrock Conservation Park. At these places we observed wildlife at its fall best, and most interestingly, right here within our five boroughs.

We observed several species of birds, such as kinglets and baby finches. Dr. Defina also pointed out plants which spurt out seeds when touched by wild animals.

Besides the educational aspects of FES, on these trips

you are able to relax; its almost like a retreat from the hustle and bustle of city life.

If you're a Ford student who is interested in doing something new or just coming on one of the Ford Environmental Society's trips, come and join. You can also find a list of trips (in which you might want to participate) posted in the life science lab on the basement floor.

One of the more recent field trips was to our own Botanical Gardens, where FES took an inside tour of different species of plants in their artificial habitats. You could actually feel the heat where the desert plants were kept. We also walked along the botanical paths, where we saw white, purple and red roses. We also observed trees brought over from Japan and successfully raised here. The Botanical Gardens is a classic place; if you've lived in Brooklyn all your life, it would be tragic if you never got to this beautiful part of the landmark, Prospect Park.

Winds Spread West Coast Fires

by Justin Tabick

The fires late last month in southern California gave another example of mother nature's power. The cause of this mass inferno has not yet been fully determined, although it has been rumored to have been started by arsonists.

The flames burned on for several days, destroying everything in their paths, not only devouring precious forests, but also factories and homes, homes in which the rich even became victims of nature's fury. Both rich and famous people felt the merciless pain meted out by this disaster.

Firefighters put in countless hours, day and night, of grit and courage to try to put an end to the massive fire

provoked by fierce Santa Anna winds that spread the flames rapidly. The huge blaze wound up burning over 170,000 acres of land. While nature can be so gentle and beautiful, she can be devastating and brutal.

Looking on the bright side, situations such as this bring out the best in people. People from near and far came to assist in anyway they could, sacrificing their own time for people who needed it the most. Strangers became united for one common goal... to help others. That's what it's all about. It's very unfortunate that it takes something as terrible as this to force people to help each other. As the old saying goes, it is always better to give than to receive.

Christmas Toy Drive Held For Blue Feathers Special School

by Ewa Sadowski

It's the time of year when the Christmas Toy Drive begins. Many Ford students bring in toys, and many are a little hesitant to bring something in, because they're not that well informed about this event. Well, I've been talking to Mr. Slow, the student club coordinator, and he gave me some very interesting facts about this drive.

Mr. Slow says that Ford In Action sponsors this event, with Mrs. Rollo and one or two F.I.A. members managing it. During the Christmas Toy Drive, students should bring in educational toys, such as Fisher Price, for children ranging from 18 months to 4 years old who are mentally disabled. Somewhere in mid-December, Mrs. Rollo and Mr. Slow will personally deliver the gifts to Blue Feathers, a pre-school for these special children. If you feel that you don't know what to bring for the kids, you can always donate money to one of the faculty members, and they'll buy whatever toy is needed for the children.

When I asked Mr. Slow if the program will be successful, he answered, "Definitely, it brings out the spirit of giving in our kids." He is also optimistic that this year, with the toys that students will be donating and the money handed in to buy the toys, a total of 100 educational products will be collected. "After all," said the student club coordinator, "the toy drive is an unselfish and highly fulfilling event for the students and a way of sharing with those less fortunate than us. That's the reason it came into existence in the first place."

What Happened To Jack-o-Lantern?

by Nicole Crooks

On October 29 of this year something strange happened. The senior class did not have a halloween party. Many students who looked forward to it were disappointed, as well as were the faculty. Christine Goldston, who was in charge of the details, also felt the pain, because she had put much of her time into preparing for it.

I have to say one thing to the senior class of '94: This is our last year together, so why not enjoy it while we can, because opportunities like these only come once.



A Humanitarian Undertaking . . .

by Dominic Lazaro

A humanitarian undertaking is one of the most noble endeavors that a country can involve itself in. Such an enterprise reflects compassion, courage, and a moral sense of responsibility. When one considers the United States' involvement in Somalia, one must be able to discern humanitarian intent from pointless occupation. Last Easter, when President Clinton declared operation "Restore Hope" an overwhelming success, it was clear that the United States' humanitarian mission in Somalia was complete, and with that endeavor fulfilled, it was time to withdraw. Since then, there have been numerous conflicts with the hostile bandits of Somalia, and the United States has halted its withdrawal.

Last December, President Bush and Bill Clinton agreed that measures must be taken to ease the suffering that was occurring in Somalia. While it was agreed that there was no United States interest at stake in Somalia, it was felt that a relief effort was the morally correct avenue to pursue. Since this was a "no lose" situation in a backwater, third-world nation, the operation was initiated with a great deal of enthusiasm. After all, who does not get satisfaction out of helping someone who is in dire need of assistance?

It is difficult to understand how an initially successful humanitarian effort could have become such an embarrassment. American blood has been spilled in numerous military missions after victory was declared. The United States was set to withdraw from Somalia last April, and yet, we are now mobilizing more troops to be shipped off to that same country.

Somalia is a failed nation. Throughout its history, Somalia has undergone multiple governmental collapses, with this strife being a result of the latest. The United States no longer has an objective in Somalia. The United States is not in the position to force order on Somalia. If the United States were to do so, it would involve the deployment of a military force with the intent forcefully to bring about martial law. It is not in the United States' best interest to do so, because the United States would then be seen as a foreign power with an intent to institute puppet governments among the Islamic nations. Through this, all of our efforts to secure stability among the Islamic nations would be for naught.

The United States has encountered a resistance in Somalia that has been supplied with weapons by the Sudan which, in turn, has been supplied by Islamic nations such as Iran and Saudi Arabia. This conflict in Somalia is the result of the continuous efforts of the Islamic nations to undermine and embarrass the United States. The Somali bandits do not pose any threat to the United States, but when considerably armed, they pose a threat to the small body of American troops who are currently stationed in Somalia.

The United States has completed its mission in Somalia. The United States has brought relief to the ravished Somali people. Our objective has been met, and we no longer serve any purpose in Somalia.

Our country does not have an obligation to restore stability in this failed nation. To do so would require a major undertaking that would cost the lives of many more American soldiers. Because it is not worth sacrificing more American lives for the sake of restoring a failed nation that does not serve any strategic purpose, the choice is clear and the time has come for the United States to pull out of Somalia.

The Chalk Circle Players
present

STEPPING OUT

by Richard Harris
January 14 and 15
Bishop Ford Auditorium

Give Thanks To God And Alms To The Poor

by Naja McClean

This year Thanksgiving falls on a Thursday (surprise!). We have no school on Thanksgiving and the day after.

Thanksgiving has more to do with families and friends getting together and thanking God for what they have, than just getting two days off from school.

On Thanksgiving Day, American families gather around tables laden with food and give thanks for the blessings of the past year. This American holiday has been celebrated since the Pilgrims first set aside an occasion to thank God for a plentiful harvest.

The Pilgrims held the first Thanksgiving festival at Plymouth, Massachusetts, in October, 1621. They had known hunger, and sickness had carried away half the band of about 100 settlers.

The seeds sown early in 1621 had produced a harvest that allowed them to increase their scanty rations.

They walked peacefully and safely in the woods, for they had made friends with the Indians and had signed a long-lasting peace treaty with Massasoit, head of the Wampanags.

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln issued a White House proclamation calling on the "whole American people" wherever they live, to unite "with one heart and one voice" in observing a special day of thanksgiving.

In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt advanced Thanksgiving Day one week. However, since some states used the new date and others the old, it was changed again two years later. Thanksgiving Day is now celebrated on the fourth Thursday in November.

Thanksgiving to me means a time for special generosity in remembering and helping the less fortunate.

Happy New Year

Somalia Must Not Become Another Vietnam

by John McKenna

The word *quagmire* has become synonymous with the United States' involvement in the Vietnamese civil war. Many people felt that after the death of 50,000 Americans and countless Vietnamese, the U.S. would have learned its lesson. That lesson is that unless there is a clear-cut goal, a military operation will become a quagmire.

The first post-Vietnam quagmire developed in 1982 when the United States participated in the UN peacekeeping mission that was sent to Lebanon. Although the mission was supposed to help bring about an end to the Lebanese civil war, there was no plan made on how to accomplish this. The Marines soon found themselves fighting the various factions to no avail. Then on October 23, 1983 a suicide bomber drove an explosive-laden truck into the Marine barracks in Beirut and detonated the ordinance. The blast collapsed the barracks, killing the 240 Marines inside. Twenty dead Marines later, in the spring of 1984, the U.S. ended its involvement in Lebanon.

Ten years later the U.S. finds itself in yet another quagmire. This time it began in December of 1992, when President George Bush, as his last act in office, ordered a task force of Marines to invade the East African nation of Somalia. His purpose was to have the American forces safeguard the food shipments that were being raided by the vicious bandits that ruled the anarchic state. While these thieves feasted, the rest of the nation starved.

When the famine was relieved, the Americans were joined by Italian and Pakistani forces which were part of a collective UN peacekeeping force. This UN force battled with the "armies" of the various Somali warlords that ruled the nation. After a large ambush that killed 21 Pakistanis, the U.S. was once again called in to serve in Somalia. This time the famed Army Rangers were sent along with the super secret Delta commandos. Their mission was to capture the most powerful of the Somali warlords, General Aidid.

Shortly after their arrival, President William Clinton announced the U.S. forces' goal was not to capture Aidid. The Rangers and Delta commandos were now in Somalia without a clear-cut mission.

The Americans had been given the role of policemen. Time and time again, they engaged in small firefights which resulted in no long-range solution. Time and time again, the U.S. forces requested tanks and AC-130 gunships, which would give the rangers the leverage they needed. Each time the request was denied by Secretary of Defense Les Aspin. Then, in October of 1993, the rangers thought they had Aidid. They tried to capture Aidid, but the Somalis had somehow been forewarned. A fierce firefight ensued. Without the armament that they requested, the rangers were trapped. After 16 hours had passed and more than a dozen Americans had been murdered and one captured, a group of Malaysian tanks came to the rangers' rescue.

The United States cannot continue this present course of action. Washington must set goals before engaging its troops, but must not make these goals known to the opposing force. Certainly, President Clinton's announcement of a withdrawal date for our forces gives Aidid the upper hand. They just need to wait us out, then pounce on the innocent masses of Somalia to regain their strength.

A specific goal must be set *before* the United States enters into a military operation, alone or in conjunction with the United Nations, or we will find ourselves continuously in the quagmire of conflicts that we cannot resolve.

Jeff Bridges Is Fearless

by Vincent Lijoi

This movie review is on the movie FEARLESS, starring Jeff Bridges.

In this Peter Weir, emotional and eerie drama, Jeff Bridges plays Max Klein, a San Francisco architect who survives a plane crash. During the descent, he gazes out the window and confronts the prospect of his own death. And what he realizes is that he isn't afraid, he is willing to die. Now, Max is trapped in a state of numbness, reliving that one fearless moment over and over.

The strength of the movie is that it dares to imagine Max's tormented state as a genuine religious state. Perez gives a gentle and compelling performance.

The Last Thursday Of November Is Not The Only Time For Giving Thanks

by Keith Fiocco

What is Thanksgiving? To answer this question, we must go back in time; the time—December 1620; the place—Plymouth, Massachusetts.

Landing at Plymouth in December 1620, the Pilgrims faced winter without an adequate food supply, sheltered from the elements only by such dwellings as they could build quickly.

Only 55 of the 102 immigrants lived through that first winter, but when spring came, all 55 committed themselves to life in the New World and resolutely watched the Mayflower sail back to England without passengers. Tisquantum, an Indian of the Wampanag tribe, who had once been carried off by fishermen to England, where he learned to speak the settlers' tongue, befriended the colonists. They called him Squanto, and under his direction the colonists learned how to plant new-world crops of corn and squash, where to catch fish and how to hunt. Squanto also served as negotiator and interpreter, helping to conclude a treaty that kept the peace for 50 years between the Pilgrims and the Wampanag Sachem, Massasoit.

The first autumn, an ample harvest insured that the

colony would have food for the winter months. Governor Bradford, with one eye on divine providence, proclaimed a day of thanksgiving to God, and with the other eye on the local political situation, extended an invitation to neighboring Indians to share in the harvest feast.

This story not only tells of the first modern Thanksgiving and the pursuit by the Pilgrims of a better life, but of racial harmony, which we in the 20th century have not accomplished.

We, in the 20th century, may have every kind of computer imaginable and other hi-tech equipment, but what use is it if we can't get along with each other?

We have sat at home, time and time again, before our televisions, and have seen the beatings of motorist Rodney King and truck driver Reginald Denning.

We may have improved our technology, but we have taken a step back socially. Just as the Indians and pilgrims learned from each other, we must learn from each other.

So, while you're sitting at your table on Thanksgiving, with your family and friends near you, remember this quote from Chief George as he and his tribe were running away from the union army: "I will fight no more forever."

Tina Turner

Is A Real

Surviver

by Naja McClean

Ada May is known to all as Tina Turner. As a young child she was placed from one home to another because her mother was not financially and emotionally stable enough to care for her.

At age 16 she was placed back with her mother because of the death of her grandmother. As she grew older, she began singing at a club, and soon after she met Ike Turner. Ike Turner was a professional singer who knew Ada May had talent. With her voice and his talent, they wanted to form a duo. He then gave her the stage name Tina Turner.

After months passed, Ike and Tina got married, and soon after she was forced to care for three children who were not biologically hers (they were Ike Turner's). Tina had two kids of her own.

They began going on tour to many countries around the world.

Ike became abusive to Tina when important people started acknowledging Tina's talent instead of his.

Ike became very abusive and began to sexually, physically and emotionally abuse Tina. Ike was also an alcoholic, and that triggered his temper that caused him to abuse Tina.

When Tina couldn't take it any more, she left Ike and continued on with her life. Now it was only Tina Turner recording records, not Ike and Tina. She doesn't feel pressured into singing the way Ike wanted her to sing; now she sings the way she wants to sing.

Movie Reviews:

The Program

Controversy

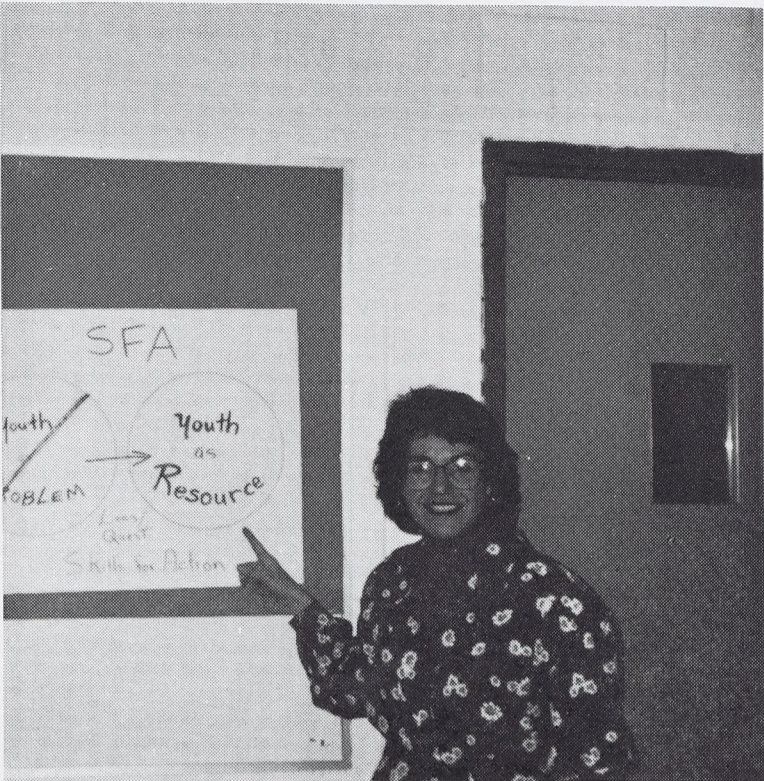
by Nicole Crooks

In October there was much controversy concerning the movie *The Program*, which featured movie stars such as Omar Epps and Halle Berry. The movie focused on four football players trying to maintain their status as football players. The part which caused many people to talk was the scene which showed young men "testing their faith" by lying in the middle of the street with traffic coming head on. This caused chaos among children in today's society. As a result of it, one young man died and two are listed in critical condition.

Throughout, the movie deals with real life problems young kids face when in college, and also the hardships of being an athlete. The movie should be viewed in such a manner that you can comprehend how hard you have to work to achieve goals in life. I give this movie three stars.

Faculty Focus:

Ms. Karen Musicaro



Ms. Karen Musicaro

by Ewa Sadowski and Alyce Dalinski

For this edition of *Highpoint*, we've decided to focus on Mrs. Musicaro, a religion teacher.

Mrs. Musicaro lived and worked out on Long Island, where she taught in several elementary schools and her first high school, Maria Regina, before moving to Brooklyn. In 1978, she started working at Bishop Ford with about 17 new teachers and has been at it for 16 years.

She is very content with teaching the Ford students and always tries to involve them in trying many new things. One such thing is meditating. Meditating is a positive force in her life, and she hopes that introducing meditation to her students will bring them closer to God, but she also stresses that meditation doesn't work for everyone.

Aside from teaching religion, Mrs. Musicaro also teaches seniors who run the peer groups. Also, Mrs. Musicaro

is involved in a pilot program called "Skills For Action," or Skaction, which teaches students to see themselves as positive resources in the community, and offers students hope and an opportunity to make a positive difference in a concrete way. One junior class from Env. Science is already involved in this program, but she's looking forward to expanding Skaction so that many more students can benefit from it.

Mrs. Musicaro hopes that she will become an influence on her students and hopes that some students will benefit from her ideas and beliefs. She can't imagine not teaching religion and trying to spark an interest in some of the teens, because, "Developing your spiritual side is very important and often neglected in our culture." As her former pupils, we know she means well and is one of the many people in the world of teaching who truly cares about the students.

Rosenberg's TWENTY BUCKS Is

About Chance And Romance

by Brandon Broady

Many of you have never heard of *Twenty Bucks* by Rosenberg, but here is your special review of a funny scheme that won't be nationally released for a few weeks.

There isn't one particular star in this movie, because the scheme tells several intertwined stories about whose hands a twenty-dollar bill falls into.

We have all wondered where and to whom our money goes after we have spent it. This movie provides a realistic setting for exactly this scenario.

Twenty Bucks, as a whole, has a little of everything: sex,

violence, comedy, satire, and even morals. But what makes this movie so great is that it doesn't bombard you with all it has; the movie is simple and easy on the mind.

One of the funniest situations in this movie occurs when the twenty dollars falls into the hands of two robbers. One of the robbers, played by Christopher Reeve, is professional and sticks up a gas station in a suit and tie, fooling his victims.

Twenty Bucks is about chance and romance. It's a movie that will change the way you spend money and help you decide in which direction you want to direct your life.

What teacher was obviously scalped by the native Americans many Thanksgiving ago?

Find and circle the words in the puzzle below, and put together the remaining letters to spell the teacher's name. Words to search for: TODAY, FUN, DAY, TO, FOUR, AT, KIT, KEY, KING, TWO, IN, MAJOR.

T O D A Y M ?
R . F U N M M
D A Y C T O A
F O U R A T J
K I T K E Y O
K A K I N G R
T W O Y I N !

Queen Latifa Stars In

Living Single

by Kathleen Duncan

Living Single, the new television sitcom starring Queen Latifah as Kadeja, Kim Fields as Regine, Erika Alexander as Max, and Kim Coles as Sinclair, is shown on Channel 5 at 8:30 p.m. on Sundays. As it is stated in the theme song, this program is about the independence of women living in the 90s. In a woman's life today, a friend is more important to have than a man.

Unlike the other characters, Kadeja and Max have jobs in the business world that give back to the community. On top of her recently published magazine, *Flavor*—which is written to spotlight talented Afro-American youth—Kadeja also plays the mother role. She reassures the girls that they are able to achieve anything without the help of a man. Max, on the other hand, is a prestigious lawyer. She works very hard at defending her clients. She has a positive attitude when she walks into a court

room; that is why she has never lost a case.

Sometimes it may seem as if Regine is very conceited, but this is her way of being "classy." Her biggest accomplishment since moving out of the projects is being a part of the upper middle class. She is now able to shop 'til she drops and wear as many wigs as she pleases.

Sinclair, the eccentric one, works with Kadeja at the magazine publishing company. She adds wit to the sitcom by always saying the wrong thing at the wrong time.

I think that *Living Single* definitely portrays a positive outlook on friendship and the role of the single black woman in the 90's. No matter what type of circumstances occur, one is always there for the other. Unlike most shows that are just based on entertaining the viewer, this show is also based on depicting real-life situations.

Poor Righteous Teachers On CD

by Vincent Lijoi

This album review is on the new album by Poor Righteous Teachers called *Black Business*.

This New Jersey-based rap trio may just be hitting their stride. While they're sticking with the bare, reggae beats of their previous two

releases, the songs sound less frantic, since lead rapper Wise Intelligent has slowed and varied his lyrical flow. The album still makes for great dance music and may be one of their best albums yet.

The album is in record stores everywhere and is on the Profile record label.

THE EDITORS AND STAFF OF HIGHPOINT EXTEND TO THE ENTIRE BISHOP FORD COMMUNITY BEST WISHES FOR A VERY . . .

Merry Christmas

AND A

Happy New Year

HIGHPOINT

Bishop Ford Central Catholic High School

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Brooklyn, New York 11215

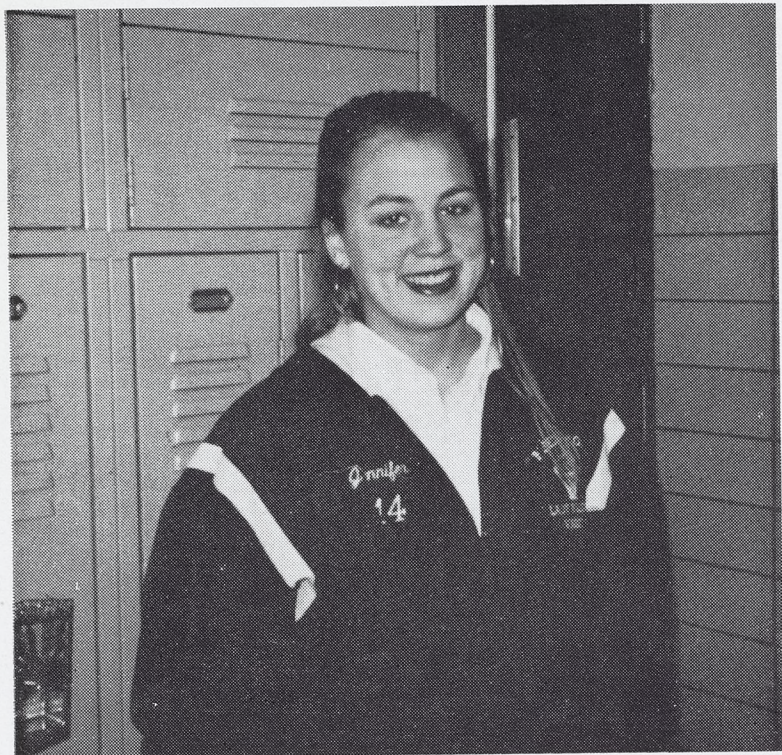
Staff: Brandon Broady, Ewa Sadowski, Nicole Crooks, Justin Tabick, Clifton Regis, Cassandra Regis, Jahmel Weary, Naja McClean, Keeth Fiocco, John McKenna, Alyce Dalinski, Vincent Lijoi, Kathleen Duncan, Dominic Lazaro.

Luke Nawrocki Principal

George A. McKay Advisor

Jennifer Polanski

Interviewed By Kathleen Duncan



Jennifer Polanski

by Kathleen Duncan

Jennifer Polanski is not only the president of our school, she is a member of many extracurricular activities here at Bishop Ford. She was a member of the Bishop Ford girls' basketball team that played at the Empire State Games.

Kat: Will you please name the different activities you participate in at Ford?

Jen: Volleyball, basketball, softball, and I'm also a member of the National Honor Society.

Kat: What exactly are the Empire State Games?

Jen: They are like a mini-olympics. During the Empire State Games, five regions from New York come together and compete against each other in a number of sports.

Kat: What was your first response when you knew you were actually going to compete in the Empire State Games?

Jen: I was happy that I finally made the team, especially since I had tried out for the team the two previous years.

Kat: Was the experience what you expected it to be?

Jen: Unfortunately, I broke my foot right before the Games, so I didn't get the experience of playing, but everything else about the Games was unbelievable. They really make a big deal about these Games. It's really exciting to be part of it all.

Kat: Although your foot was broken, were you still able to cheer your teammates on during the Games?

Jen: Yes, I was able to cheer them on. I was still part of the team, and I went to all of the games and sat with them on the bench.

Kat: Do you feel the event was competitive?

Jen: Yes. I feel that it was very competitive. The teams from the other regions in New York were very good ball players, and the competition was very tough.

Kat: How do you think this opportunity will benefit you in the future?

Jen: This will probably benefit me in the future because it gave the opportunity to meet new people, and it also gave me a good idea of the competition that's out there. Do you plan to continue playing basketball in college?

Kat: I am hoping to receive a scholarship for basketball, and if that happens, yes, I will continue playing.

Kat: Would you tell other people who are striving to be included in the Empire State Games, as you were, that it's worth the hard work, even if they don't do so well?

Jen: Yes, I would urge other people to try to be included in the Games, because I feel it was a great experience. Even if you don't do as well as you wanted to, at least you tried, and just being up there is a great experience.

Cheerleaders

by Naja McClean

This year the style of cheerleading has been altered slightly. In addition to hand clapping and the "street beat," the cheerleaders will be doing precision cheers and crowd involvement cheers.

This year the coach's name is Yvette Forges. She attends Baruch College in Manhattan, and is assisted by three ladies, named Aziza Mashariki, Jessica James, and Olney Hendricks.

They decided that there will



Volleyball

by Alyce Dolinski

Bishop Ford varsity volleyball team's season is going very well, because that's how they play.

The team is led by senior tri-captains Laura Mannino, Kelly Flahive and Jennifer Polanski. The other members are: Tessica Bambara, Alyce Dolinski, Lauren Hammone, Patricia Clancy, Kathleen Polansky, Jessica Irizzary and Lynda Belcastro.

I asked Ms. Lynch, the coach, "What do you feel are the strong points of the team?" Her response was, "Everyone plays well together, and especially our strong serves." Among the other teams, we stand in second place with a record of ten wins and two losses. This is a great accomplishment since last year, because the team didn't make the playoffs. Playoffs begin Sunday, November 7th. With our strong service points, we should come out winning.

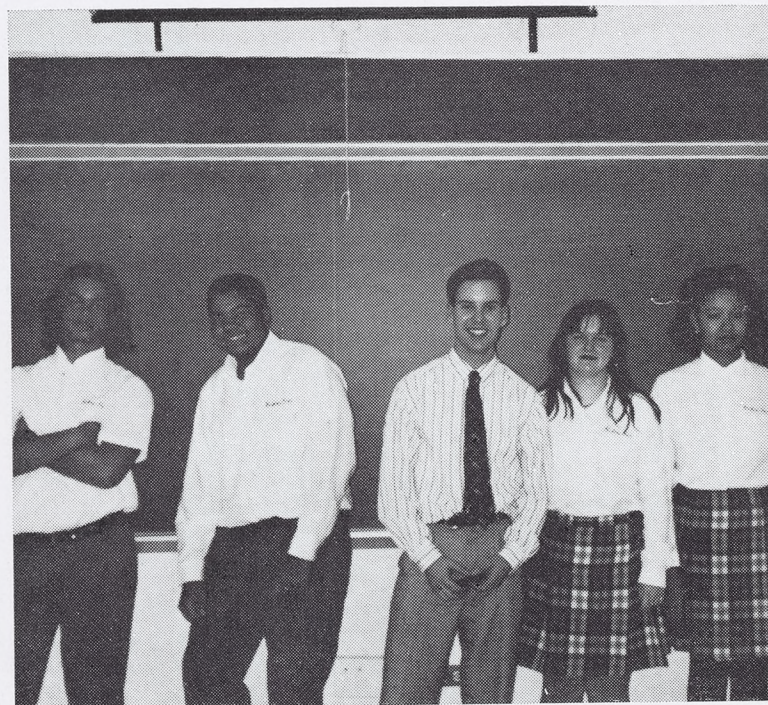
Merry Christmas

be a varsity and a junior varsity team, or only a varsity booster. The good one's go on varsity and the okay one's go on J.V.; that means that juniors and seniors could end up on J.V., freshman and sophomores could end up on varsity, or the other way around.

Soon the coach will select the eligible girls for the team.

The girls who have been selected will have performed on December 3, 1993 at Bishop Ford's pep rally, which introduced the basketball season.

Mr. Rivera Initiates Speech And Debate Team



Mr. Rolland Rivera (in necktie) and team members.

by Keith Fiocco

I interviewed Mr. Rolland Rivera, the founder of the Bishop Ford speech and debate team, on Wednesday, October 27.

The speech and debate team, an interscholastic club in which students speak in various speech categories against different schools, teaches you how to speak to a large group of people.

There seem to be a lot of perks in this club. For instance, Mr. Rivera said that this club tends to help students with academic skills. He also told me that most colleges look favorably upon speech and debate members, and if you do well in competitions, you can win awards, such as college scholarships, trophies, and the chance to go

to the state championships in Albany and the national championships in Wisconsin.

There are many categories to choose from, such as drama, debate, extemporaneous speaking, unrehearsed speech on current events, oral interpretation, during which you recite poetry and short stories, and original oratory, in which you write and deliver your own speech.

If you would like to join, see Mr. Rivera in the religion office or after school on Tuesdays in Room 124.

There is no deadline for joining, and if you join, you can expect to meet students from other schools.

So, if you like to write and always have something to say, join the speech and debate team.